

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL CITY OF NEW ALBANY,
INDIANA, WILL HOLD A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING IN THE THIRD
FLOOR ASSEMBLY ROOM OF THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING ON
THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2008 AT 7:30 P.M.**

The meeting of the **New Albany City Council** was called to order by President Jeff Gahan at 7:32 p.m. The meeting opened with the Lords Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Council Members Mr. Coffey, Mr. Caesar, Mr. Price, Mr. McLaughlin, Mrs. Benedetti, Mr. Gonder, Mr. Messer, Mr. Zurschmiede and President Jeff Gahan.

OTHERS: Council Attorney Jerry Ulrich and City Clerk Marcey Wisman.

ALSO: Deputy Mayor Carl Malysz, Asst. Director of City Operations Matt Denison, John Rosenbarger and Scott Wood.

APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

Mr. Price moved to approve the March 3rd public hearing minutes, Mr. Gonder second, all voted in favor

Mr. Coffey moved to approve the February 28th work session minutes, Mr. Caesar second, all voted in favor

Mr. Caesar moved to approve March 3rd regular minutes, Mr. Price second, all voted in favor

Mr. Messer moved to approve the February 28th meeting minutes, Mr. Price second, all voted in favor

COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC:

Gary Wacker, 415 Mt. Tabor Road, addressed the issue of the zoning ordinance to pass a PUDD for a pawn shop to build in a residential area and he stated that they do not want it in their neighborhood. He explained that there are plenty of empty buildings in the city that are ready for someone to move into,

Mr. Price stated that he received a call from Mike Neville who asked to table this indefinitely even if it received an unfavorable recommendation from the plan commission.

Mr. Coffey asked Mr. Malysz what would happen if they do not act on this in the right amount time.

Mr. Malysz stated that if it received an unfavorable recommendation from the plan commission and they don't take action in the required time then it dies. If the recommendation was for approval and they don't take action it would go through.

COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OFFICIALS:

Mr. Messer named the civilians for the redistricting committee as Randy Smith, Mark Kassidy and Roy Hardy and explained that they will be holding a meeting next week and the public is welcome.

COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR, STATE OF THE CITY

Mayor England gave his state of the City Address which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Mr. Gahan asked when the reassessment would be completed regarding the out-sourced departments.

Mayor England stated two months and went on to talk about how strongly he feels that billing should be brought back into this office and how much money is being spent on outsourcing that could go to other projects in the City. He stated that they are looking at all other contracts as well to make sure they are performing to the standards set forth in their contracts. He clarified that they aren't making any accusations but the simple truth is they need money.

Chief Juliot stated that they will be taking EMS fee collection in house and explained that they are looking at electronic filing right now because everything is done by hand and they are losing money because of this.

Mayor England stated that Chief Juliot is not talking about cases of people that are indigent and they are picking them up and taking them to the hospital but people that are picked up that qualify for Medicare and they file to get the reimbursements. He stated that the amount of uncollected fines is ridiculous and referenced the \$200,000.00 dollars in unpaid parking tickets which are now being collected. He stated that they are not trying to be money hungry but there is a responsibility to pay these debts to the City and it is the responsibility of the City to collect.

Mr. Carroll stated that they are also in the process of reviewing all fees to see if the amounts are comparable to surrounding cities.

Ms. Wisman stated that they will be able to go to court soon on the unpaid parking tickets with the help of Mr. Gibson who has appointed a separate attorney to handle these violations and in the first three months of 2008 they have collected over \$30,000.00

APPOINTMENTS:

APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:

Mitchell Veneers, Inc., Compliance with Statement
of Benefits, Referencing R-05-11

Tabled

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS: READING

R-08-07	Resolution Concerning Statement of Benefits for Rite-Way Industries, Inc. By the Common council Of the City of New Albany	Caesar
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Mr. Caesar moved for the reading of R-08-07, Mr. Coffey second, all voted in favor

Mr. Caesar stated that this is exactly what we want to see in New Albany and gave this a favorable recommendation.

Mr. Price asked if this is for five (5) years.

Mr. Caesar stated that it is.

Mr. Malysz stated that they have reviewed this and it is consistent with how they have approved tax abatements in the past.

Mr. David Embry stated that he wanted to thank the council and that he wanted to be a cheerleader during the Mayor's speech. He told the council that the manufacturing businesses are really taking a beating and one of the reasons he came to New Albany was because they offered a ten year abatement and these tax relief's are very important to their businesses and they are high tax based jobs and they need to stay in New Albany.

R-08-11	Common Council City of the New Albany, Indiana Regarding the Enlargement of the Park East Industrial Park Economic Development Area	Coffey
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Mr. Coffey moved for the reading of R-08-11, Mr. Messer second, all voted in favor

Mr. Coffey explained that this needed to be expanded in order to get it in the TIF district to help pay for the amount of work that needs to be done.

R-08-12 Additional Appropriation Resolution Price

Mr. Price moved for the reading of R-08-12, Mr. Messer second, all voted in favor

Mrs. Garry explained that the Indiana code allows them to put this back into a line item to the department and that is what they are asking to do.

R-08-13 A Resolution for \$1,200.00 to be set aside out of Gonder
Riverboat Funds for Police Department In 2008-
03-07

Mr. Gonder moved for the reading of R-08-13, Mr. Benedetti second, all voted

Mrs. Garry explained that they will be getting three handheld radars for the price of one. She stated that the money is already appropriated and that is why it is in resolution form.

Chief Crabtree explained that these are replacement handhelds and the gentleman is a retired police officer and that is why they are getting such a good deal. He then discussed the benefits of having a city court.

Z-08-02 Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of Price 1
New Albany, Indiana, Title XV, Chapter 156
(Docket P-01-08: Go for Less, LLC)

Mr. Price moved to table this ordinance and he would call to get a hold of the attorney.

A-08-06 Additional Appropriation Ordinance Messer 2&3

Mr. Messer moved for the second and third reading of A-08-06, Mr. Coffey second, all voted in favor. Bill A-08-06 becomes Ordinance A-08-09

G-08-02 An Ordinance Establishing Fees and Costs for McLaughlin2&3
Violations of City Ordinances as Section 101 of
The New Albany City Code

Mr. McLaughlin moved for the second and third reading of G-08-02, Mr. Price second, all voted in favor. Bill G-08-02 becomes Ordinance G-08-10

G-08-03 An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance G-04-27 Zurschmiede2&3
Code 34.01 Mileage and Travel Allowance
Reimbursement

Mr. Zurschmiede moved for the second and third reading of G-08-03, Mr. Messer second, all voted in favor. Bill G-08-03 becomes Ordinance G-08-11

Mr. Price asked Mrs. Garry if when they turn in their mileage sheet is there any way that she can check if the amount is correct.

Mr. Gahan stated that after their work session tonight he feels that they still need to take a look at creating a committee that will further investigate the issue of tax abatements and he appointed Mr. Messer, Mr. Caesar and he asked Mr. Price to sit the chairman.

Mr. Price asked if Mr. Rosenbarger and Mr. Malysz would work with them.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Lloyd Wimp stated that doesn't want them to think that he is anti-industry, but he would like for the council to really review the tax abatements to be sure that they are not receiving the cream off the top and leave the rest for the community.

Mr. Malyzs made the announcement regarding the city purchasing the Baptist Tabernacle on East 4th Street and that the Mayor has created a steering committee for the re-use of the building and he would like with their permission to appoint Mr. Gonder to the committee.

Mr. Coffey stated that the Flood Control did a wonderful job keeping the City from flooding and he wants to commend them for a job well done.

Ms. Wisman stated that she will be talking with Mrs. Garry about the possibility of having a change fund or a petty cash fund and she wanted to give the council a heads up that this will be coming before them.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to be heard, the meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Jeff Gahan, President
Common Council, City of New Albany

ATTEST: _____
Marcey Wisman, City Clerk